



Sources Sought Notice No. SS-2023-2026
“Grid Edge Subscription Services”

Background:

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is a national laboratory owned by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). NREL is the only federal laboratory dedicated to research, development, commercialization, and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. NREL is managed and operated for DOE’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by The Alliance for Sustainable Energy (Alliance), the “M&O Contractor”.

NREL is seeking a vendor who can provide current and reliable market data in the power and renewables sector, specifically related to the electric grid market. Complete and thorough analysis of the energy industry remains one of NREL’s primary tasks for the DOE, and a focus on the emerging grid area is necessary to succeed in this area.

Due to the surge in the adoption of solar power, wind power, energy storage, microgrids, electric vehicles, and other new energy technologies, the grid market area has transformed. Grid market research now covers all distributed hardware, software, and business innovations that exist in proximity to the end user, rather than at the center of a traditional generation network. Some examples are electric vehicle charging infrastructure, behind-the-meter resources, heat pumps, and grid modernization. NREL is seeking a vendor who can provide detailed market data related to this grid transformation, involving technologies, solutions, and business models advancing the transition toward a decentralized, distributed, and transactive electric grid.

Objective:

The objective of this Sources Sought is to identify potential vendors that are qualified and capable of meeting the requirements set out in this document.

Project Details:

The vendor shall meet the requirements listed below:

Content requirements:

- Current, detailed, and reliable data and analysis of the market, technology, and competitive landscape of the electric grid market area
- Approximately 20 in-depth industry market reports and data published throughout the period of performance.
- Pre-approval from NREL research staff who heavily use this data to meet deliverables.

Support requirements:

15013 Denver West Parkway
Golden, CO 80401
Phone 303-275-3000

NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
Operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC

- Telephone and email access to the Research Analysts who produce the market reports to answer questions specific to the reports or the industry on an ad-hoc basis.
- Telephone and email access to the vendor's IT support specialists to answer questions concerning the operation of the database or website.
- Telephone and email access to the general customer service helpdesk for general inquiries.
- Access to online product and help guides.

Additional requirements:

- Internal sharing of data must be permitted.
- Market reports must be available in PDF format and the report data must be available in spreadsheet format (Excel or CSV).
- The ability for NREL authors to re-use data from the vendor in publications that will be publicly available is required. This data will be cited properly.
- The ability for NREL staff to ingest data into NREL-specific tools for analysis purposes only is also required. This data will be cited properly.
- Enterprise-wide access is preferred.
- Competitive pricing offered is required.

Period of Performance: This subscription will have a base period of performance totaling twelve (12) months or 365 days, plus four (4), one-year option periods totaling twelve (12) months or 365 days. The total Period of Performance, if all options are exercised, shall not exceed sixty (60) months.

Small Business:

NREL is seeking interests from small businesses, small disadvantage businesses, women-owned businesses, economically disadvantaged women-owned businesses, HUBZone businesses, veteran-owned small businesses and Service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code:

The NAICS code is 513210 – Software Publishers.

- The following links are being provided for convenience:
<https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards>
<https://www.sba.gov/size-standards>

Response Requirements:

Responding to this Sources Sought Notice identifies your organization as an interested candidate only. A list of interested and qualified parties will be maintained and considered for further consideration. NREL reserves the right to down select from the qualified respondents for further consideration.

Organizations responding to this Sources Sought must demonstrate capabilities, attributes, and skills to meet the above requirements in their response. The response shall also include:

1. The page limit for responses shall be limited to 2-5 pages.
2. The Organization shall provide a narrative of the Offeror's company expertise with projects of similar scope, size, and complexity.
3. Capability Statement
 - a. NREL is seeking a vendor that has demonstrated success with similar projects, has experience with federally funded projects, is knowledgeable with challenging schedules on project delivery, and is well versed and skilled in effectively integrating with all project team stakeholders.
4. Organization Name and Address (include bona-fide location as stated above)
5. Point of Contact (Email, Direct Phone Number)

THIS IS A SOURCES SOUGHT NOTICE, NOT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. VERBAL RESPONSES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ALL INQUIRIES MUST BE PROVIDED IN WRITING VIA E-MAIL.

NOTE: No contract award will be made to any contractor that is not registered or in the process of registering with the System for Award Management (SAM). Please visit the SAM website at <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration> for instructions on how to register.

Any organizations interested in working with NREL to provide the services described within this Sources Sought Notification shall provide a response as directed above **on or before 5:00 p.m. (MST), 03/29/2023**. Telephone calls will not be accepted. Interested parties shall respond via email to Rachel Province at Rachel.Province@nrel.gov.